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action**

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Fair fun

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The Signal



Friday, May 6, 2005

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 25, No. 18

News UPDATE

Beach bash

The Pointes West Army Recreation Area is having a beach blast at noon **May 28** at the lake.

Enjoy live entertainment, a volleyball tournament, kid's games, food concessions and more. For information, call 541-1058.

Awards program

The Kendrick Memorial Blood Center's 8th annual award ceremony is 10 a.m. **Thursday** at the Gordon Club main ballroom. For information, call 787-1014.

Free concert

University Health Care presents "Symphony Under the Stars" featuring the Augusta Symphony at 7:30 p.m. **Saturday** at its Evans Campus on Belair Road.

For information contact Sandra Self at 826-4715.

Asian Pacific heritage program

The Fort Gordon Asian Pacific American Heritage command program is 1:30 p.m. **May 20** at Alexander Hall.

This year's theme is "Liberty and Freedom for All". The guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Carol Wong Pietsch, U.S. Army Reserve. Pietsch is the first female general in the 228-year history of the Judge Advocate General's Corps and the first Asian American female to hold the rank of brigadier general in the Army.

For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Victor Roberts at 791-2014.

Awards reception

The Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter, AFCEA, will present \$20,000 in scholarships to high school and college students during a ceremony 5 p.m. **May 19** at the Gordon Club.

Every year the chapter presents scholarships of \$1000 each to students. One scholarship for \$2000 is presented to the top applicant.

Building dedication

The 513th Military Intelligence Brigade is having a building dedication at 10 a.m. **Thursday**.

Building 21710 will be dedicated in honor of Col. Jon Jones, former brigade commander who died June 6, 2004. For information call 791-8181.

Operation Ready

Army Community Service will offer "Operation Ready" Family Readiness Group Training for leaders and others interested **Tuesday** at the Family Outreach Center. Call 791-3579 to register.

324th Sig. Bn. breaks new ground

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

The 324th Signal Battalion conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony for a Multi-channel Tactical Satellite at the Army Reserve Center on post April 28.

Although the equipment is not new to the Army, it was the first ever fielding of the Multi-channel Tactical Satellite Systems to the U.S. Army Reserve.

The guest speaker was Lt. Gen. James Helmly, U.S. Army Reserve commander, who along with Maj. Gen. Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and post commanding general, Maj. Gen. Lowell Detamore, 335th Theatre Signal Command commander, and Brig. Gen. Dennis Lutz, 359th Signal Brigade commander, held the ribbon cutting.

"I am Ron Helmly and I am an American Soldier," said Helmly as he welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Soldiers that have mobilized and deployed in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

"Fielding the TACSAT system, which consists of a set of super-high frequency satellite terminals to the Army Reserve Signal community signifies tremendous change and forward movement for the Army Reserve," said Helmly.

"Now our Army Reserve signal units possess 21st century global communications capabilities," he added.

The 324th Signal Battalion is the first of four Army Reserve units to receive the TACSAT terminals. The 319th Signal Battalion in California, the 35th Signal Battalion in Puerto Rico, and the



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Lt. Gen. James Helmly (center), U.S. Army Reserve commander, discusses Signal equipment following a ribbon cutting for a Multi-channel Tactical Satellite System April 28 at the Army Reserve Center. The 324th Signal Battalion here is the first Reserve battalion to field the TACSAT system.

392nd Signal Battalion in Pennsylvania will receive the same systems between now and 2008, said Helmly.

He added that when completed the Army will have fielded a total of 10 systems per battalion. Additionally, the TACSAT system is scheduled for field-

ing to the Army National Guard later this year.

"So the Army and its Reserve components will have the advantage of one more interoperable communications link on the battlefield," said Helmly.

With TACSAT, Helmly said echelon-

above-corps Army Reserve signal units like the 324th can now provide a combatant commander with immediate, long-haul communications in addition to the 140-mile, line-of-sight capability it already has.

See TACSAT, page 10

Student group tours Gordon for tech expo

Spc. Nicole Robus
Signal military editor

More than 250 students toured Fort Gordon Friday as part of the Technology Expo, a future Soldier function for the Augusta Recruiting Company.

The purpose of the event was to highlight Army technology careers to area high school students, said Capt. Brian Tidwell, Augusta Recruiting Co.

The students were from area high schools and ranged from sophomores to seniors. Along with the students, 18 instructors, 14 future Soldiers and 10 recruiters attended the event, said Tidwell.

Maj. Gen. Janet Hicks, U. S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general, addressed the guests and held a question and answer session.

In addition to being welcomed by the commanding general, the students received briefings by a drill sergeant, a company commander and a command sergeant major, said Tidwell.

"Each speaker during the opening portion was outstanding," said Tidwell.

All guests were provided a take away package that included information about the Signal Regiment.

After the briefings the students toured facilities on post, further re-enforcing the connection between Army skills and civilian education, said Tidwell.

The students toured 93rd Signal Brigade's data exercise, ordinance electronic maintenance, Leader College of Information Technology and satellite communications, said Tidwell.

"This event was very informative," said Navy Chief Petty Officer Wayne Scott, a Naval Science Instructor at Cross Creek High School. "I am very appreciative of having the opportunity to come out here."

The event made the students aware of a variety of jobs the Army has to offer to them, added Scott.

"I enjoyed it a lot. They gave us a lot of good information," said Navy JROTC Lt. j.g. Jennifer Strickling, a junior at Cross Creek High School.

"This was an excellent and highly successful event," said Tidwell. "It fulfilled the purpose of connecting Army training with civilian education."



Photo by Spc. Nicole Robus

Spc. Phillip Wilson, 252nd Signal Co., explains video teleconferencing capabilities to a group of students from Strom Thurmond High School.

RNCOA recognized for contributions to student program

Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble
Contributing writer

The Regimental Non-commissioned Officer Academy was named Harlem High School's Transition Program's Community Based Instruction of the Year winner April 28.

"It was a total surprise," said 1st Sgt. William Jordan, first sergeant with HHC, 67th Signal Battalion. Jordan was previously at the academy and was responsible for coordinating the school's visit to the installation.

"I was honored," said Jordan. "The time spent with those students was the most rewarding thing I've done this year."

The Transition Program's goal is for students to work toward mastering the skills needed to transition from high school to a career or the post high school program of his or her choice. The program includes a job study program with local businesses and check writing skills.

The Community-Based Instruction part of the Transition Program allows the students to get an overview of what it's like to work in a specific career field. The sites provide the students with enough detailed information so they can decide whether or not it would be a good career choice for them. Fort Gordon was one of 16 CBI sites visited by the students over a month.

"They were not field trips like I thought they were," said Tommy Brewster, a program member. "We did a lot of hard work."

According to Jordan, the students' excursion to Fort Gordon included five stops where it was explained to them "what Soldiers do and how Fort Gordon plays a role in the Army's mission." The students also learned how the signal community fits into the military.

When the trip was over, "the students and adults walked away with a lot of respect for (Soldiers)," said Bernette Johnson, the high school's Transition Program paraprofessional, at the program.

"A day of exploration turned into a lifetime of inspiration," was the way Johnson ended her description of the student's trip to Fort Gordon. It was also the words engraved on the plaque Jordan received on behalf of the Academy.

"I didn't really know how beneficial (the visit) was to the students until the program," said Jordan. "It was a very emotional program. For it to be emotional for students, it has to have an impact on them."

"This is a way for the civilian community to be involved with the things going on at Fort Gordon, and to see what we do on a day-to-day basis," he said. "It's a way to let them know what it's like to be in the Army."

SOBC becomes BOLC Phase III

Spc. Nicole Robus
Signal military editor

With the transformation of today's Army comes a change to the schools Soldiers attend. And that is no different for the new lieutenants.

Currently, graduates of Reserve Officer Training Corps, West Point and Officer Candidate School attend their branch specific Officer Basic Course and then are assigned to units and become leaders, said Lt. Col. Rosemary Carter, 442nd Signal Battalion commander.

Starting this summer officer basic courses will become two-phase training courses: Basic Officer Leadership Course Phase II and BOLC Phase III.

Phase II will focus on training TRADOC's mandatory common-core subjects, instilling the warrior ethos, reinforcing physical readiness and developing field-craft skills. The sites for Phase II will be Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Sill, Okla. and Fort Knox, Ky.

BOLC Phase II's length is currently scheduled for six weeks.

Phase III will cover the importance of the officer/noncommissioned officer relationship, and it's the first stage of de-

veloping competent and confident small-unit leaders.

Phase III will also provide officers with technical skills based on their assigned branch.

Also, they will have an initial common-training experience before they receive their specific branch training that will enhance the overall bonding and trust among all officers.

Reducing course length from 18 weeks to 12 weeks was largely accomplished by relocating most of the common-core training from Fort Gordon to Fort Benning and other BOLC sites, which reduced administrative hours, streamlined specific blocks of Signal branch-specific training and eliminated integrated-systems control from the course.

The BOLC concept will benefit the Army as a whole. It will improve the leadership training the lieutenants receive, said Carter.

It will create a common bond with their combined arms peers, she added. It will prepare them to lead small units in a tactical environment upon arrival at first unit.

BOLC will incorporate lessons learned from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom to produce officers that are better prepared to lead Warriors

The Signal BOLC POI is being redesigned as part of the overall redesign of officer education to meet the modularity requirements of the Army. Under the BOLC concept, phase III is to be branch specific so the training will focus on the skills and knowledge that second lieutenants require for their first assignments.

The course will include tactical instruction embedded within the technical training as well as TRADOC common core instruction on maintenance and training development, said Carter.

"We will focus on signal equipment maintenance and signal platoon training in that portion of the POI," added Carter.

The Signal Center will conduct a pilot course for Signal BOLC Phase III for 12 weeks this summer.

"During the pilot, we will be getting 20 lieutenants from the Fort Benning BOLC site," said Carter.

"The course will culminate with a field training exercise where the officers are challenged to complete technical missions in an operational environment," she said, "They will use the skills from all phases of BOLC (precommissioning, common core, and branch specific) to be successful in the FTX."

Holocaust victims memorialized

Kristy Davies
Signal staff

Abe Korn had a tremendous story to tell, but died in 1972 before he was able to complete a rough draft.

Korn, a victim of the Holocaust, survived more than five years in two Nazi ghettos and eight concentration camps during World War II.

Later his son would resume telling his father's story and share it with the world.

Joey Korn was the guest speaker for "Days of Remembrance: Victims of the Holocaust," held at Alexander Hall Tuesday, where he shared his father's story.

Presented by the 15th Regimental Signal Brigade and hosted by the 369th Signal Battalion, "From Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice" was presented to Soldiers as part of the annual Days of Re-

membrance program.

Joey graduated from the University of Georgia in 1976 and ran his family's auto parts business for 16 years before the business was sold, giving Joey the opportunity to complete his father's story.

The first edition of Abe Korn's story of survival was published in 1995 on the 50th anniversary of his liberation from Buchenwald Concentration Camp by the U.S. Army.

In addition to speaking at military installations, Joey has been speaking in schools and for other organizations internationally about his father's story for 25 years.

Also at the presentation, Leah Ronen, director of the Augusta Jewish Federation, participated in a candle lighting ceremony in remembrance of those lost in the Holocaust.



Photo by Kristy Davies

Joey Korn, whose father survived Nazi ghettos and concentration camps during World War II, speaks at Days of Remembrance: Victims of the Holocaust presented by the 15th Regimental Signal Brigade. The event, hosted by the 369th Signal Battalion, was held at Alexander Hall Tuesday.

Faithful help families cope with deployment

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

A dinner was held for family members of Soldiers deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism, April 28 at the Bicentennial Chapel on Brainard Avenue.

The dinner was organized and served by the ladies of the Protestant Women of the Chapel. About 30 adults and 45 children attended the event.

What began as a fairly quiet room full of slight noise from kitchen preparations quickly livened up with the noise of laughter, children playing, and fellowship among military spouses.

The room was a buzz of conversation and socializing as they shared similar stories of their experience as a military wife with a loved one deployed.

“We wanted to be available

to support the (spouses) of Soldiers that are deployed,” said Bennett. “We provided a night out for them – somewhere they could go out, connect, find some encouragement and find out they are not by themselves.”

The evening, Bennett said, also gave the Family Readiness Group leaders an opportunity to meet and discuss any pertinent issues.

But mostly, it was an evening of relaxation so they could let their hair down.

“What we wanted to do is connect people so they aren’t sitting at their house by themselves worrying about the news and getting depressed,” said Bennett.

This was the second dinner held this year by the PWOC, the first one was held for the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion.

“What we hope is that these ladies feel they have a place to come when they are having a

hard time,” said Bennett.

“It’s a great opportunity for us to get out, relax and enjoy dinner,” said Beth Dixon, 63rd Signal Battalion FRG leader. “It’s nice for us to be able to enjoy the night and talk to people.”

Dixon said holding events like this one helps, especially for those who have not yet endured being away from their spouse due to a deployment and have a lot of responsibility on their shoulders such as caring for a family and work.

“It’s nice to get out and not only know that you don’t have to cook dinner, but it’s also about the socialization and camaraderie that we have,” said Dixon.

She said this is a good way to build up a good support system.

“Inevitably things are going to go wrong while your husband’s not here – the car’s going to need to be worked

on, there’s a death in the family- things like that come up,” added Dixon.

“To have friends and people that know what you are going through and can support you – it’s a big help,” said Dixon.

She said the FRG is a resource for the family that al-

lows them to stay informed about things like playgroups on post, classes to take, financial aid, learning where the good places are to take the kids on the weekend, who’s a good hairdresser, or who’s a good veterinarian just to name a few.

“We can help provide the

resources but you can also make friends that are resources too,” said Dixon.

The PWOC meets Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings for bible study and worship.

For information about PWOC, call 798-3657 or 399-6732.



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Macen Holmes, four months old, smiles as he is held by Edna Sinclair during the Protestant Women of the Chapel dinner for family members of deployed Soldiers. Macen’s father, Capt. Robert Holmes, 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, is deployed to Kuwait.

EAMC marks nurses' week

Lt. Col. Marcia Callender
Department of Medicine

“Nurses: Many Roles, One Profession” is this year’s theme for the 2005 National Nurses Week, celebrated May 6-12 each year.

National Nurses Week begins today, Florence Nightingale’s birthday. Eisenhower Army Medical Center will celebrate Nurses Week with various special events and activities beginning Monday.

Traditionally, National Nurses Week is devoted to highlighting the diverse ways in which registered nurses are working to improve health care.

From bedside nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities, to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures, and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding health care needs of American society.

Throughout history, nurses provided care to the wounded and sick soldiers and patients either in private hospitals, military hospitals or on the battlefields. Today, active duty and reserve nurses have been called to serve our county in Iraq, Afghanistan and the United States.

Nurses work to promote

health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. They are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. As nurses provide direct care to patients, they monitor, assess, and evaluate the care. They document symptoms, reactions, and patient progress during procedures. They assist physicians during surgeries, treatments, and examinations.

Nurses administer medications and assist in convalescence and rehabilitation. They also develop and implement nursing care plans, provide education to patient and their families about proper care, and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, registered nurses are the largest healthcare occupation. They held about 2.3 million jobs in 2002. Almost three out of five jobs were in hospitals, in inpatient and outpatient departments.

Others worked in physicians’ offices, nursing care facilities, home healthcare services, employment services, government agencies and outpatient care centers. The remainder worked mostly in social assistance agencies and educational services, public and private. About one in five RNs worked part time.

Military spouses honored

Lynn Harshman
Army Community Service

“Since the days of the Continental Army, the wives of our servicemen have made unselfish contributions to the spirit and well-being of their fighting men and the general welfare of their communities. As volunteers, military spouses have provided exemplary service and leadership in educational, community, recreational, religious, social and cultural endeavors. And as parents and homemakers, they

preserve the cornerstone of our nation’s strength, the American family.” So began President Ronald Reagan’s official proclamation of the first Military Spouse Day in 1984.

Now 21 years later you will still find military spouses making a difference wherever they are. Some spouses bake for unit functions or fundraising events while others

conduct newcomer’s briefings, spouse seminars and holiday activities.

While not every military spouse is able or interested in taking part in organized activities, their contributions are no less significant. It’s a crucial job keeping home, children and servicemembers clean, fed, loved and supported.

Gone are the days when the military’s unofficial stand was “if we had wanted you to have a spouse, we would have issued you one.” Military leaders across the board realize and respect the contributions and sacrifices made by military spouses. They also recognize the impact made on the servicemember and retention rates. A well-adjusted, self-sufficient spouse is considered a combat-multiplier by commanders at all levels.

Military Spouses Day is celebrated today, and each year on the Friday before Mother’s Day.

Spouse’s day

Army Community Service is celebrating Military Spouse Day at 11:30 a.m. **today** in the Darling Hall lobby.

There will be refreshments and drawing for a gift basket.

Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

Commentary...Water safety, summer on its way

Spc. Nicole Robus
Signal military editor

The warm weather is here, which means servicemembers and their families will be heading out to the water for various water sports.

Did you know that drowning is a leading cause of Soldier deaths? Drowning most often occurs during off-duty recreational swimming in unauthorized swimming areas after dark and are frequently related to alcohol use.

Consistent factors in drowning include overconfidence in swimming ability, alcohol involvement, breakdown of the buddy system and not wearing life jackets.

In recreational settings, these failures sometimes work together setting a Soldier up for tragedy.

Often the victim was not alone, but no one was able to control the situation or complete a rescue.

Units should target their water safety programs on these threats.

I know that in the units I have been in, we were briefed every Friday about water safety. The unit commander would make it very clear not to swim at unauthorized swimming areas.

I hated to hear it every week but there was a method to their madness. Our leaders want us to be safe.

Unauthorized means no life guard on duty or if there isn't a

sign that reads swim at your own risk.

Swimming at unauthorized areas is a steady problem at the Pointes West Army Recreation Area. People are constantly swimming from their campsites. Military Police officers routinely patrol the area and let the violators know. There is an approved beach for swimming and it is the only authorized place to swim.

Drowning and other water accidents are not just the result of swimming; many accidents involve boating whether it is a canoe or a speed boat.

Most boating mishaps involve capsizing, falls overboard and collisions.

About 90 percent of all fatalities are caused by drowning, and in nearly all cases personal flotation devices were **not** used.

To help prevent boating accidents you can wear a life jacket, limit loading your boat to recommended weight, limit movement inside the boat, limit boating to safe weather and water conditions and never drink alcohol!

Life jackets can be the determining factor between life and death in many boating safety accidents.

Each year, on average, 700 people die in boating-related accidents – 8 out of every 10 victims were not wearing a life jacket.

According to Virgil Chambers, Executive Director of the National Safe Boating Council, "Thousands of people would be

alive today had they taken the simple precaution of wearing a life jacket when they went out on the water."

Water safety doesn't end at military members, we want their families to be safe as well.

Here are a few tips to keep those precious dependents safe.

At no time should you leave your child unattended in or around any water, no matter what skills your child has acquired and no matter how shallow the water.

I was once told that a child could drown in just an inch of water.

Don't leave toys in the water this could lure a child back into the water when a parent is not present.

Don't rely on substitutes to watch your children. This means don't assume flotation devices or inflatable toys replace adult supervision.

Remember it only takes you looking away for a second for something bad to happen.

Help save lives this summer, always wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket for yourself and your children when boating or skiing. It could save your life.

As we say in the Army "Stay alert, stay alive."
(Information for this story came from the U.S. Army Safety Website, the Fort Gordon Safety office and the Safe Boating Campaign website.)

(This is the third and final part of a three part series on safety.)

Feedback...

How can you make water sports safer?

By Kristy Davies



Abide by regulations. Reduce speed in no-wake areas, don't drink, and wear life preservers.

Eddie Devlin
PX operations manager



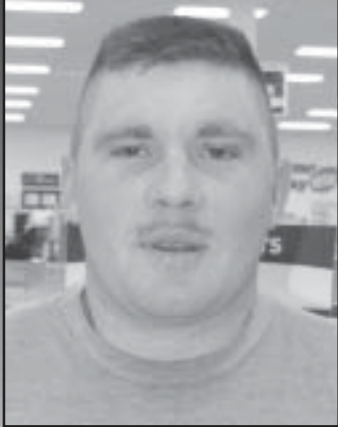
Make flotation devices mandatory and have extra flotation devices around so if someone is in trouble, there will be something there just in case. Slow down water vessels and maybe add more enforcement.

Sgt. Kevin Smith
Company C, 67th Signal Battalion



Kids should not be allowed to go by themselves and there should be constant adult supervision. Be more aware of your surroundings. Children should learn how to swim at a young age.

Kirsten Chasen
Homemaker



The minimum age for driving water vessels should be 18. Make it harder to get alcohol into the water and fines for alcohol involved accidents should be stiffer. There should also be more education.

Pvt. Leighton York
Company B, 447th Signal Battalion



More flotation devices and some type of flotation device in the boat to prevent sinking. Everyone should have an emergency plan when on a boat.

Richard Morris
Retired military



Have adult supervision and life vests must be worn. If caught under the influence, violators should get into just as much trouble as someone driving an automobile under influence.

Spc. Trevor MacLeod
Task Force 201

Why I Serve: Guantanamo Sailor loves stability, Navy lifestyle

Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press Service

NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba – "The best thing about being in the Navy is being in the Navy," said Seaman Michael Sean Brophy, a master-at-arms here.



Photo by Kathleen T. Rhem

An electrified fence separates Navy Seaman Michael Sean Brophy from the blue waters of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The 20-year-old sailor said he especially loves the travel, training, "learning new things and making new friends."

"Probably one of the best things ... is getting to meet new people everywhere we go," he said.

He said serving as a master-at-arms has been even better than he expected.

He said he enjoyed a lot of new experiences during an assignment to Japan, and is so far enjoying his deployment to Guantanamo Bay.

A Florida native, Brophy said he especially loves the hot weather here.

During long, cold months in Japan with heavy snow, "I'd be wearing nine layers of clothing," he said with a chuckle.

Brophy joined the Navy right out of high school in 2003. He said he feels like he was born to the Navy, and specifically the master-at-arms field.

His father and two uncles are veterans, and he has a strong family background in law enforcement and firefighting.

"When I went to the recruiter I asked him, 'Do you guys have anything in law enforcement? Otherwise I won't talk to you,'" Brophy related.

The young sailor said he feels like joining the military was "the right thing for me."

"It works for me," he said.

"You know what you're doing every day, and you've got a steady paycheck," he added.

"Stability and structure, that's what I'm looking for," he said.

Private Murphy

By Mark Baker

'Employee Feedback'



News Office (706)791-7069

Nelson Hall Room 209, Fax 791-5463
www.gordon.army.mil/pao

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Editorial Office: Fort Gordon
Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 29801
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Cruise-in for car lovers

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

It's not unusual to see vintage cars and hot rods at the Sno-Cap Drive-In on West Avenue in North Augusta.

The restaurant's owner, Rachel Franklin, has welcomed members of car clubs since she and her husband, Kenny, bought the business nearly eight years ago.

"The Mopar Club has met at the Sno-Cap on the first Thursday of each month for more than seven years," she said.

Other groups including the CSRA Mustang Club, Cruisers4Christ and Sparx Sport Bike Association hold monthly gatherings at the site.

Built in 1964, the Sno-Cap is a North Augusta icon. Once part of a fast food chain, the concept is what inspired the Sonic Drive-Ins. Patrons could order their food from their parked car and have it delivered to them.

Restoration of the electronic ordering system is underway,

but restaurant goers can still go inside for hamburgers, fries and milk shakes.

Because of the drive-in theme of the restaurant, Franklin thought car enthusiasts and outdoor gatherings at the restaurant went hand-in-hand.

On the last Saturday of each month, Franklin invites all car enthusiasts to gather at the restaurant's parking lot for the Last Saturday Cruise-In. Members of different car clubs host the cruise-ins. They bring their cars to the event and often pop the hoods for people to see the work they've done in restoring them.

"Even though car clubs host it, it's for everybody," said

Franklin. "You don't have to have a car to come; you don't have to have a restored car to come. It's about fellowship."

On Saturday, April 30, the Mopar Club was the host car club.

Lots of times, people leave early and mad from car shows. "Nobody leaves mad" from a cruise-in.

Pat Williamson
Car enthusiast

It was a smaller gathering than usual. Rains seemed to keep a lot of people away, but that didn't stop Dennis Hall and Dennis Kotz, also known as the Double D's, from singing oldies from the 1970s.

Pat Williamson brought her show car to the event.

"I got it about five years ago," said Williamson of her 1977 black Corvette with painted flames lapping its sides.

It was a Mother's Day

present. Her husband, Corbet, had rebuilt several vehicles with their sons, and now it was Mom's turn.

She said she likes to attend the cruise-ins.

"I go because I like to be social. You meet a lot of nice people and get to see a lot of nice cars," she said.

Socializing is the main reason Jan Brinkman attends as well.

She said she'd much rather attend a cruise-in than a car show.

"Car shows are about trophies," she said.

And lots of times, people leave early and mad from car shows.

"Nobody leaves mad" from a cruise-in, she said.

The next cruise-in will be from 5-7 p.m. May 28, and will be hosted by members of the Masters Miata Club.

The times for the cruise-ins change from month to month. A complete list is on the restaurant's website, www.snocapdrivein.com or call 279-4004 for information.



Photo by Charmain Brackett

A variety of cars were on hand for the Sno-Cap Drive-In's Cruise-In on Saturday. The North Augusta restaurant is the site of car cruise-ins on the last Saturday of each month.

Iraqis appreciate Americans

Sgt. 1st Class
Doug Sample

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Rubar S. Sandi, an Iraqi businessman, wants the American public to know U.S. troops killed in Iraq have not died in vain.

"Your sons, your husband," he said to the wife of Capt. Bill Jacobsen, who died in a suicide-bomb attack in Mosul, Iraq, "I don't call them dead; they live in every one of us.

"You all need to be proud of your sons and daughters," he said. "Their lives have definitely not been wasted. They are there because of you."

Sandi, an outspoken critic of Saddam Hussein, was a guest speaker at an April 27 luncheon sponsored by the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, which aims to help families through the grief process.

Sandi, president and CEO of The Sandi Group, a security and logistics firm with headquarters in Washington and Baghdad, and one of the largest employers in

Iraq, said that despite the violence in Iraq, the majority of Iraqis appreciate the sacrifice U.S. servicemembers have made for their country.

"The message (Iraqis) have for America is to please stay," he said.

Sandi explained that Iraqis see violence against Americans as a "horrible thing."

"If you ask the Iraqi people, the majority – 95 percent – will say they are happier," he said. "If you go through the streets of Baghdad you see restaurants and tea shops open until (2 or 3 a.m.)."

"If you asked them, 'Are you happy?' They will say, 'Absolutely,'" he said.

However, Sandi said, it is the stories of servicemembers dying in violent car-bomb attacks that grab headlines. Such violence overshadows how happy Iraqis are about the tremendous progress being made "from health to education to electricity to clean water," he said.

"People have hope, that's the

biggest progress that you can imagine," he said. "During Saddam, people were dying for nothing, their lives were worthless."

He said several of his security personnel have been "killed and executed" by terrorists, and others have died defending against insurgent attacks on U.S. servicemembers.

"We are fighting side by side with your sons and daughters," he said. "We are fighting for the same cause."

"I do pray for President Bush, the Americans and specifically for the U.S. armed forces for their dedication and for them sacrificing their lives to defend freedom," he added. "Even if you don't believe in Iraq, you must believe in America."

Sandi also told the group that he believes peace will one day come to Iraq, but it will be a "long journey."

"We have to take it step by step," he said. "Things will get better."



Photo by Lance Cpl. Zachary Lester

Border patrol

Marines from 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines reinforce the Iraqi Border Police at Waleed as they work to ensure insurgents do not cross the Syrian border into Iraq.

Golf tournament benefits AER fund

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

Area golfers will hit the links May 26 to help Soldiers.

“We do a tournament every year for Christmas House. We wanted to boost (Army Emergency Relief),” said Sgt. 1st Class Sean Parijs, one of the coordinators of the 15th Signal Brigade’s tournament.

Check-in for the tournament is 11 a.m. at Gordon Lakes Golf Course with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The format is a four person scramble, and scores will be flighted by score.

There are a lot of prizes available including new vehicles and a trip to Puerto Rico.

There will also be a silent auction with golf memorabilia autographed by professionals including Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh.

The entry fee is \$35 for Gor-

don Lakes members, \$40 for military non-members and \$45 for civilians.

Parijs said he’s a golfer and has heard many people complain about the high cost of golf tournaments, so they’ve tried to keep the cost affordable.

“We are very eager to put on a good show,” he said. “We wanted to make a decent profit and give people a good taste about AER.”

Parijs said he thinks the tournament will raise at least \$10,000 for AER, which provides no interest loans to Soldiers with emergencies. To date, the Fort Gordon AER campaign has exceeded its goal, raising more than \$141,000.

Make reservations by phone or by e-mail. Reach Parijs at parijss@gordon.army.mil, 791-8622 or 791-8478 or 1st Lt. Irvin McLaughlin at mclaughl@gordon.army.mil or 791-0318.



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig

Will-ing

Capt. Mary Schaefer (left), Company A, 551st Signal Battalion, fills out paperwork in preparation for an upcoming deployment, with the assistance of 1st Lt. Desiree Helmick, office of the staff judge advocate, during Law Day activities Friday at the Cinco de Mayo festival.

Capt. Jennifer Venghaus, command judge advocate, HHC 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, said this "was a good opportunity to help people get these documents that they need," Venghaus said. "The Terry Schiavo case has a lot to do with this. It definitely sparked an interest in a lot of people."

CGSC students get lesson from past

Edwin L. Kennedy Jr.
Special to the Signal

Charleston, S.C., is not only a major Southern city, but the site of major campaigns and battles during both the Revolutionary War and the “War Between the States,” or Civil War.

Sixty-five majors and lieutenant colonels attending the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Gordon went on a “staff ride” to Charleston, April 29 and 30, as part of their studies in joint and combined operations.

“Staff rides” are an educational event used frequently by the staff college to teach, or reinforce, learning objectives.

The difference between a battlefield tour and staff ride is the involvement of the students. Staff rides are much more involved and include three distinct phases: preparation phase (extensive classroom study), the field study (visit-

ing the actual sites), and, the integration phase (a modified after action report).

Students are expected to do extensive readings and participate in the discussions regarding tactics and operational art.

This is the first staff ride conducted to Charleston for the CGSC Intermediate Level Education Course now being taught at Fort Gordon. Students at this course receive the same core instruction that CGSC students at Fort Leavenworth receive during their first four months.

The difference in the courses is that those at Leavenworth remain during the second term to participate in the “Advanced Operational Warfighting Course” in order to prepare them for operational assignments while those at Fort Gordon will attend their specialty courses pertaining to their functional areas.

The course is taught by retired CGSC military officers and active duty officers assigned to the faculty of the staff college at Fort Leavenworth.

CGSC student Maj. Tom Addyman said that “The chance to visit (Charleston) is paramount to the understanding of our heritage and the opportunity to study military art.

“I think that the analysis of military battles and the personalities involved is key for field grade officers to be aware of,” he said.

The staff ride consisted of visits to a number of key sites during the military campaigns and battles around Charleston from 1861-1865 and culminated with a visit to the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, the first submarine to ever sink an enemy ship (1864).

(Kennedy is a retired lieutenant colonel and a member of the CGSC faculty here.)

Afghanistan field commander: Never let Holocaust happen again

1st Lt. Kristin Burt

Army News Service

FOB SALERNO, Afghanistan – The strength of a message found on a cellar wall in Cologne, Germany, was echoed during the Days of Remembrance observance, April 21, at Forward Operating Base Salerno near Afghanistan’s border with Pakistan.

“I believe in the sun, even when it doesn’t shine. I believe in love, even when I don’t feel it. I believe in God, even when He is silent,” reads the message written by Jewish faithful who hid in a Cologne basement during World War II.

For Yom Hashoah Ve-Hagevurah, literally the Day of (remembrance of) the Holocaust and the Heroism, the FOB Equal Opportunity Advisor Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Fagan organized a ceremony that encouraged Soldiers and civilians to do just that: remember.

“If we don’t stop to reflect about the atrocities of the Holocaust, it can happen again,” said Fagan. “If we don’t remember and educate others about that culture, we do ourselves a disservice.”

Fagan educated Salerno tenants through an observance that included a candle-lighting ceremony, a poem reading and a multi-media presentation comprising a movie clip and informational posters on the chapel wall.

Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Jerby read the poem “Flame” by Pennsylvania eighth-grader Eric Lashner. The poem, read before the candle ceremony, emphasized the symbolism of each candle that was lit.

“Night comes/ Devours hopes and dreams/ Day looks the other way/ Ignorance, deceit/ Night deepens/ The Flame flickers.”

Maj. Joseph Gleichenhaus lit the first candle, to remember the men and the fathers that suffered in the Holocaust. He was followed by Staff Sgt. Bethany Matthew, who lit a candle in remembrance of the women and mothers that were affected.

Sgt. Christian Monk lit a candle for the children, Staff Sgt. Omri Ibi for the liberators. Sgt. 1st Class Hurley King lit a candle for the Righteous of the Nations, and the candle for the future was lit by the youngest Soldier in 25th Division Artillery, Pfc. Trevor Pease.

The guest speaker, Col. Gary Cheek, commander of Combined Task Force Thunder, focused on the danger that Soldiers in Afghanistan face today if they do not remember the Holocaust.

A flame is extinguished/ Snuffed out/ Blown out in the wind/ Never seen

“It is a slippery slope that we go down. I will ask you: how do you treat the Afghan people,” said Cheek.

“Sixty years have gone by and what has the world learned? We have Iraq, where Sunnis are trying to kill Shiites because of lineage and heritage. In Africa we have all sorts of genocide and tribal warfare. Maybe it would seem the world has not

learned much in 60 years,” he said.

We must remember/ Never forget/ Hope is left

“We fight this war in Afghanistan. And I will tell you that in order to win this war, it is the people, the Afghan people that we must win. We must win their trust and their confidence. If we do that, we deny the enemy support. We deny the enemy manpower. We deny the enemy sanctuary.

“So I bring it back to this, we look at this and see a horrible tragedy of unspeakable and unthinkable dimensions. We think it can’t happen, and we are wrong. It is something that will come to us if we are not careful,” he continued.

Rebuild/ Burn once again/ Burn flame burn/ Grow and learn

“An American Pfc., in his heart, is a compassionate person who does the right thing. And we will win this war in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq because of that American Pfc. out there every day interacting with these people. He’s going to need the right leadership, he’s going to need the right example set for him by his



Photo by 1st Lt. Kristin Burt

Pfc. Trevor Pease, the youngest Soldier in the 25th Division Artillery, lights a candle representing the future at the Remembrance Day ceremony held at the base chapel on Forward Operating Base Salerno near Khowst, Afghanistan.

leadership. And we will do in April of 2005 just like we did in April of 1945,” he finished.

Division Artillery Pfc. Trevor Pease, the Soldier to light the candle for the hope of the future, felt the responsibility of the challenge Cheek put before all privates first class.

“We need to do whatever is possible in the military or as human beings to make sure this tragedy never happens again. As a Pfc., we’re new in the military, but we’re given so much responsibility. It’s a huge responsibility, but I’m proud to have that responsibility. I’m proud to do what I have to do to get my job done. I’m glad I’m in the position I’m in,” he said.

Fagan was pleased that a ceremony to remember could hold so many lessons for the future. “I strongly believe in the Army’s concept of one Army, one team, one fight. By accomplishing that we have to respect differences, value differences and appreciate differences. Every one of us brings something unique to the table, to the fight,” he said. “If you allow that (intolerance) to foster, the lives of the Soldiers that have fallen before us will have been for nothing. We need to make things better, not worse.”

(Burt serves with Logistics Task Force 191. Poem excerpts taken from the “Flame” by eighth-grader Eric Lashner.)

Road project continues on Alaska’s Annette Island

Air Force Maj. Richard Sater
Army News Service

CAMP WY-WUH, Alaska – Operation Alaskan Road is underway again as a joint task force resumes work this summer on a 14.5-mile road across the rugged terrain of Annette Island.

This seasonal project is in its ninth year, a continuing effort to make good on a 60-year-old promise by the Alaska Road Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers to the island’s Metlakatla Indian Community.

Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps troops – both active and Reserve – are building the road to Alaska’s only federally recognized Indian reservation. When completed, the road will connect the town of Metlakatla with the new ferry boat dock on the north end of Annette Island to provide quick and easy access to Ketchikan, Alaska’s fourth-largest city, across the bay.

Approximately 12 miles of road are under construction in various phases, with military teams clearing the land and then drilling, blasting, filling, compacting, and installing culverts in preparation for final surfacing, which will be handled by the Federal Highway Administration. This year’s training operation is scheduled to run until late September.

Construction units will begin rotating in late April every two weeks and run through late August to accomplish this year’s mission.

The U.S. military partici-



Courtesy photo

Engineer units work on a section of the road to connect the Metlakatla Indian Reservation on Annette Island, Alaska, to the ferry port.

pates in the project under the Innovative Readiness Training Program administered by the assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. IRT is designed to promote civil-military cooperation through projects that contribute to and enhance military unit training and readiness and fill a need that is not otherwise being met.

The road was originally proposed in 1946, when a route was surveyed by the Alaska Road Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers, according to information provided by Sol Atkinson, spokesman for the Metlakatla Indian

Community. Though the route was surveyed two additional times, the road project itself was not started until 1998 under the IRT program.

U.S. Pacific Command designated Alaskan Command, located at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage, as Joint Task Force – Operation Alaskan Road. The Alaskan Command has overall responsibility for managing the program.

In turn, JTF-AR designated a Joint Force Engineering Component Command to lead the engineering and support operations on Annette Island. Missouri Army National Guard

stepped up to fill the key leadership positions and provide engineering expertise.

The Federal Highway Administration is responsible for road design, civilian contracts, and quality assurance. JTF-AR success is dependent on support from many other federal and state agencies and sources.

The mission of the JTF is to provide safe, valid joint training for all participating individuals and units in the road construction project. To date, more than 9,700 servicemembers have participated in the project.

(Sater serves with Joint Task Force Alaskan Road.)

Religious education offers evangelism explosion course

Special to the Signal

The Religious Education Center is sponsoring a course on how to share the Christian faith using material developed by the Evangelism Explosion program.

The EE program uses a simple outline that can be expanded or contracted depending on the amount of time one has with the contact.

According to Dr. D. James Kennedy, PhD, the founder and president of Evangelism Explosion International, “EE’s concepts have been developed, tried, evaluated, and refined over a period of more than 30 years.

“I believe they constitute the finest training available in the Christian world for church leaders who want to equip their people in friendship, evangelism, discipleship, and healthy growth,” he said.

The course promises to be a challenge but one that is achievable and the information learned will enable the student to increase his/her confidence in sharing their faith, knowing the Bible, and influencing other Christians to follow their example.

The EE training consists of 13 weeks of course work and will be held on Sunday evenings at the Religious Education Center, Building 39713 on 39th Street near 7th Avenue, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The first portion of each lesson is a review followed by the current week’s lesson then practical exercises.

The course will run through Aug. 7 with breaks for the holidays. The course begins Sunday.

For more information contact Randy Dillard, religious education director, at 791-4703.

Short timer’s syndrome

Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Zell

551st Signal Battalion

It is that time of year. Summer moves. PCS orders. New leaders. New faces. I am one of the ‘nearly departed’ myself, and I have noticed an odd feeling that has been gradually building as my PCS date draws nearer.

It is an itchy feeling, a mixture of anticipation with frazzled anxiety and seemingly odd behavior. I find myself rushing around trying to tie-up loose ends, while at the same time reaching beyond the confines of this post to plan my next adventure.

It seems like I am living in both the past and the future, while the present disappears. I have been asking myself questions like: “Have I done enough?” “What will I be remembered for?” and “Did I make a difference?”

All this thinking makes me dizzy.

I decided to seek professional help, and after a brief conversation with a trained clinician I was told that I have STS, Short-Timer’s Syndrome. They went on to say that it is a common diagnosis in the Army, so common in fact that each Soldier gets it once every two to three years. It lasts anywhere from one to six months, and is most noticeable within 30 days of PCS.

The doctor went on to say that there is no way to fight it. The disease will run its course, and I will eventually recover once I reach my next duty station.

I asked one final question, “Was there any way I could have prevented it?”

The doctor looked me square in the eyes and said, “Make each day count. Don’t start more than you can finish. Remember what

matters most.”

So what does all this mean in light of our faith? I find some striking parallels between STS and planning for eternity. You see, there will come a day when the reality of heaven becomes visible on the horizon. A time when I know that I am “getting short” in life and closer to my final PCS into the arms of God. What will it be like? Will I spend my time running around trying to tie up loose ends, asking forgiveness for past offenses and seeking reconciliation for broken relationships? Will I look back on where I have been and say that I took on too much and missed what matters most? Will the life I live be one of regret or anticipation of heaven?

The scripture is quite clear on this issue, “Dear brothers and sisters, you are foreigners and aliens here. So I warn you to keep away from evil desires because they fight against your very soul.” (1 Peter 2:11) “As Christ’s soldier, do not let yourself become tied up in the affairs of this life, for then you cannot satisfy the one who has enlisted you in His army.” (2 Timothy 2:4)

In life we are all short timers. We cannot slow the coming of eternity and we have a choice: plan and live deliberately according to God’s design, or ignore the coming of time and panic at the end.

I strongly suggest that we stay focused on the mission of Christ, carry the good news to those in need and ensure that we make each interaction a reflection of the love of God.

There is nothing worse than the feeling of leaving things undone, and if we plan and prepare our hearts before God now we can all avoid spiritual STS.



Photo by Spc. Nicole Robus

Powerful stuff

Lee Haney, an eight-time Mr. Olympia, gave a fitness demonstration and motivational speech talking about the connection between physical and spiritual fitness, Friday at Alexander Hall. After retiring from his body building career, Haney and his wife purchased a 40-acre farm near their home and created the Haney Harvest House, a non-profit retreat facility for children of all races, creeds, and nationalities.

Freedom Team Salute recognizes Army family

Eric Cramer

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – In a Pentagon ceremony Monday, the Army kicked off its Freedom Team Salute campaign designed to recognize those who support Soldiers’ service and veterans who have served the country in the past.

The first person to receive the honor was David Rodriguez, a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War who currently serves as the commander of the American GI Forum, an organization for Hispanic veterans of the Army.

The Freedom Team Salute package includes an “Army of One” lapel pin, an official Army decal, a letter of appreciation signed by the Army chief of staff and the secretary of the Army, and a letter of thanks signed by the chief of staff and the secretary.

Francis Harvey, secretary of the Army, said the goal of the campaign is to recognize those who make Soldiers’ service possible.

“Our Soldiers could not answer their noble calling of defending the values that have made our country great – this call to duty – without the support of those from whom they draw so much strength; spouses, parents relatives, teachers

friends and employers,” Harvey said.

He said Army veterans are also a key part of the campaign.

“Of particular importance is the recognition that this program provides for Army veterans,” he said. “Today these courageous men and women collectively represent 10 million out of a total of 26 million veterans residing in all 50 states,” he said. “Freedom Team Salute provides another opportunity for the Army to show its appreciation to veterans and Veteran Service Organizations for their dedicated serviced and continued support of today’s Soldiers and families.”

Gen. Richard Cody, vice chief of staff of the Army, said Freedom Team Salute is a way to recognize the sacrifices of those who don’t wear the Army’s uniform. He said he had recently visited a New York National Guard unit who had rescued American hostage Thomas Hamill.

“But that’s not surprising considering the outstanding Soldiers that make up the unit and the incredible support they have received from their families, employers and units,” Cody said. “Freedom Team Salute allows our Soldiers to pause and say ‘thank you’ to our incredible extended Army family that has done so much for our troops.”

Cody introduced three Soldiers who

had nominated family members or employers for the Freedom Team Salute program.

First Lt. Jennifer McGee, U.S. Army National Guard 1710th Transportation Co., presented the commemoration package to her employer, Chris Small, of the Alexandria, Va., based Arrowpoint Corp., an Army veteran who, she said, not only supported her service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, but promoted her upon her return.

Master Sgt. John Melada presented the Freedom Team Salute package to his wife, Michelle, for her support while he was deployed with the 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion.

Sgt. Nicolas Turner, of The Old Guard, presented his parents with the recognition for their support of his service.

Rodriguez said receiving the Freedom Team Salute recognition is an honor.

“It’s going to be good for the Army. When I saw the one sergeant present the pin to his wife, or the young sergeant to his parents, it almost brought tears to my eyes,” Rodriguez said. “We need to recognize what’s going on in the United States, and show the people in the community that the military, the Army, knows and cares about the sacrifices they make.”

Soldiers can nominate someone to receive the recognition by going to freedomteamsalute.army.mil.

New food pyramid introduced

Sgt. Lyle Dillie
EAMC Public Affairs

On April 19, Mike Johanns, agriculture secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture unveiled a new food pyramid, called “MyPyramid.”

Literally turned on its side this new pyramid has been divided into 12 different calorie levels to meet an individual’s needs for an improved diet and lifestyle.

“MyPyramid is about the

ability of Americans to personalize their approach when choosing a healthier lifestyle that balances nutrition and exercise,” said Johanns. “Many Americans can dramatically improve their overall health by making modest improvements to their diets and by incorporating regular physical activity in their daily lives.”

Many people have been confused by the look and possible meaning of this new food pyra-

mid.

“The old food pyramid was meant for a common tool for everyone to use, but it did not focus on a person’s individual needs,” said 1st Lt. Rebecca Seifried, chief of the Clinical Dietetics Branch at Eisenhower Army Medical Center. “The 12 new pyramid levels individualize a person’s diet. Instead of serving sizes the new pyramid turns to actual cup amounts and the

ounces needed for grains and meats,” she said.

It is also more user friendly thanks to the MyPyramid website found at www.mypyramid.gov.

This extensive and informative website provides distinct features that help personalize it for every individual.

The MyPyramid Plan provides a quick rundown of what kind and how much food a person should eat per day based on their age, gender and physical activity level.

The MyPyramid Tracker helps to keep track of daily diet and activity level. The website allows users to enter information and update it daily.

When viewing the website users can find in-depth information for every food group, tips for healthy eating habits, and recommendations for physical activity and lifestyle choices.

The web site also includes everything a teacher and doctor needs at a professional level to start teaching and informing people about the new food pyramid system.

MyPyramid is a just a guideline, and every person has their own individual needs. Consult your doctor before starting any new diet and exercise plan.



Photo by Marla Greene

Kitty cat

Augusta is a tabby available for immediate adoption at the Fort Gordon vet clinic. She’s affectionate and may do better without another cat, but gets along with dogs and people. The clinic is at 500 North Range Rd. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Adoption fee is \$60 and includes microchip, vaccinations, and spay or neuter. For information about Augusta or other animals for adoption, call 787-3815.

TACSAT

From page 1

“The fielding of the TACSAT to the 324th and other Army Reserve units increases the capability of the Army Reserve signal community immensely, making our Signal Soldiers and units more ready, more relevant, and more able to be ‘Watchful for the Country,’ the motto of the Signal Regiment,” Helmly said.

The Army Reserve is no longer limited by line-of-sight, he said, with its reach now being instantaneous and global, extending from overseas battlefields to the stateside units supporting the war.

Helmly added that the Army Reserve is changing – from how units are organized to how Soldiers are trained and equipped – and the addition of this equipment is evident of that change.

Maj. Robert Roberts, 324th Signal Battalion executive officer and one of the individuals responsible for organizing the ceremony, said that until now the Army Reserve has never had satellite capability before.

He said that in the past when a reserve unit went on an exercise they needed to coordinate with active duty Army units to obtain tactical satellite communications.

“All we had was line of sight and switch capabilities,” said Roberts. “Now, this makes us more relevant to the force than before.”

The new pieces of equipment are the ANTSC-93 van and the ANTSC-85 van that Roberts said are the “latest and greatest on the market.”

The only other unit in the Army that has them, Roberts said, is the school house.

“We’re the first ones to get the delta models,” added Roberts referring to the equipment.

Roberts said that of the customers they support, 70 percent are in the Army Reserve. Now, he said, his unit can go to various exercises its customers conduct and provide the services they need such as data, telephone and video teleconferencing.

“To the combatant commanders, it gives us an opportunity to relieve units like the 93rd, so they don’t have to take the full brunt of a deployment anymore,” said Roberts.

He added that this also allows battalion commanders to task organizations within their own battalions and not depend on another company for assets.

In addition, Roberts said this new equipment now gives the commander of the Army Reserve the capability to provide services for the exercises they conduct internally such as Operations Golden Castle, an engineer operation, Golden Cargo which deals with transportation, and Golden Medic.

Staff Sgt. Mark Shane, Company C, 324th Signal Company, said the ANTSC-85 Delta is much needed.

“It fills a void as far as joint communications between the different services,” said Shane, that allows for translation and communication between different pieces of equipment and software.



Photo by Kristy Davies

Job fair

Deputy Daniel Massey, Columbia County Sheriff’s Office, explains the benefits of becoming a law enforcement officer to Sgts. Bob McClellan and Jonathan Knowles, Task Force 201. Dozens of local, state and out of state agencies participated in a job fair held at the Army Reserve Center Tuesday, in hopes of recruiting Soldiers, veterans and civilians.

Community Events

Spouse's day

Army Community Service is celebrating Military Spouse Appreciation Day at 11:30 a.m. **today** in the Darling Hall lobby.

There will be refreshments and drawing for a gift basket. For information, call Vanessa Stanley at 791-3579.

Awards program

The Kendrick Memorial Blood Center's 8th annual award ceremony is 10 a.m. **Thursday** at the Gordon Club main ballroom.

For information, call 787-1014.

Free concert

University Health Care presents "Symphony Under the Stars" featuring the Augusta Symphony at 7:30 p.m. **Saturday** at its Evans Campus on Belair Road.

For information contact Sandra Self at 826-4715.

Summer camps

The National Science Center offers 12 summer science camps for youth grades 2-8 beginning June 6. Registration deadline is **June 3**.

Cost is \$125 for members; \$150 for non-members. Before and after camp care also available for additional charge.

For information call Lisa Golden at 821-0646, or go to **www.nationalsciencecenter.org**.

Signal ball

The 145th Signal anniversary ball is 6 p.m. **June 17** at the Gordon Club.

Attire is dress blue, dress mess, dress white or Class A's with white shirt and bow tie for military; appropriate formal attire for civilians. Cost is: \$25 per person.

For tickets see unit representatives or contact Sgt. 1st Class Donna Taylor at 791-5804.

Domino tournament

The Courtyard is having a domino tournament from 5:30-8:30 p.m. **Thursday**. Cost is \$5; winner receives a trophy and gift certificate.

Tournament open to the public; must be 21 or older. Register at the Courtyard or call 791-6000 for information.

Family night

The Courtyard is having a Family Night from 6-8 p.m. **May 19**.

Enjoy hotdogs, chips, sodas and more for \$3 per person. Activities include a Moon Bounce, Cartoon Network, X-Box games, prizes and more.

For information, call 791-6000.

Babysitting class

An American Red Cross babysitting class for youth 11-15 years old is from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **Saturday** at the Main Child Development Center, Building 44401.

Cost is \$25; register by calling the Augusta Red Cross at 724-8481. For information call Pamela Rachal at 791-1305/6495.

Customer appreciation

The Courtyard has Customer Appreciation Day from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **May 16**.

Buy a sandwich or ham-burger and get a dessert free (dine-in only).

For information, call 791-6000.

Asian Pacific American Heritage program

The Fort Gordon Asian Pacific American Heritage command program is 1:30 p.m. **May 20** at Alexander Hall.

This year's theme is "Liberty and Freedom for All". The guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Carol Wong Pietsch, U.S. Army Reserve. Pietsch is the first female general in the 228-year history of the Judge Advocate General's Corps and the first Asian American female to hold the rank of brigadier general in the Army.

For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Victor Roberts at 791-2014.

Golf tourney

The Association of the U.S. Army is holding a golf tournament **May 20** at Gordon Lakes.

Check-in begins at 10 a.m., lunch from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

Cost for the best ball tournament is \$40/members, \$50/non-members and includes lunch, cart and range practice balls. Prizes will also be awarded.

For information, call Cathi Murphy at 791-6429.

Town Hall meeting

The Fort Gordon command group is holding a Town Hall meeting from 6-8 p.m. **May 18** in the Gordon Club North Ballroom.

The meeting is for anyone who lives, works or plays on Fort Gordon.

Suggested discussion topics may be sent to **patricia.buchholz@us.army.mil**.

Free child care will be provided, but reservations are required. Call 791-3752 for information.

Live fire exercises

The following training areas are off limits due to convoy live fire training: Training areas 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 49. Obey all live fire barricades and road guards. Exercises are currently scheduled for **Monday and Tuesday, and May 18-19 and 25-26**.

All personnel are required to check in at range control, Building 482, prior to entering the training areas or ranges. For information contact range control at 791-5005.

Jewish bible study

A Jewish Bible study and discussion brown bag luncheon is at 11:30 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month at at Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel.

There is no charge. For more information call Capt. Jonathan Shoenholz, the Jewish distinctive faith lay leader, at 791-7166.

Parenting class

Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program is offering a class titled "TransParenting - Children Coping With Divorce" from noon-4 p.m. every first **Wednesday** in Building 33512. For information, call 791-3579.

Building dedication

The 513th Military Intelligence Brigade is having a building dedication at 10 a.m. **Thursday**.

Building 21710 will be dedicated in honor of Col. Jon Jones, former brigade commander who died June 6, 2004. For information call 791-8181.

Sonfest 2005

Mission 110 in Harlem is holding Sonfest 2005 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **May 14** in Harlem.

There will be children's activities, food booths, arts and crafts, and performances by local choirs. For information, call 556-6885.

African ancestry

The African American Association of Augusta is a non-profit organization that promotes the culture and heritage of people of African ancestry.

The Association meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, on the second floor conference room, Washington Hall, at Augusta State University. Membership is open to all, annual dues are \$25. For information call Mary Jones at 394-7030.

Golf tourney

The 15th Signal Brigade is holding a golf tournament fundraiser for Army Emergency Relief **June 3**; sign up by May 23.

Check-in begins at 11 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Cost for the best ball tournament is \$35/members, \$40/non-members, \$45/

civilians and includes lunch and a certificate for a free nine holes of golf. Prizes will also be awarded.

For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Sean Parijs at 791-8622.

Energy conservation

When you are away from home for one or more days, help conserve energy by turning off all lights, using a timer or a low wattage bulb for security at night.

Turn off television, radios, fans and small appliances, and in the summer, raise the thermostat to 85 degrees and lower it back to 78 degrees when you return.

Off limits list

Effective Aug. 3, 2004, the Fort Gordon Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board imposed off-limits sanction against Knights Inn, 210 Boy Scout Rd., for illegal drug trafficking and use occurring on the property.

In accordance with AR 190-24, military personnel are prohibited from entering this establishment as long as this order is in force.

This restriction will remain in effect for an indefinite period. Violations by military personnel of this order may result in disciplinary action under UCMJ.

For details, call 791-2572.

Story hour

Woodworth Library is having a Pre-school Story Hour from 11 a.m.-noon each **Wednesday**. Story hour features a series of fun and encouraging educational activities for children ages 2-5. Volunteers are welcome.

For information, contact Joyce Daniels or Jean Ballejo at 791-7323.

Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

SCRA run

The 13th annual Signal Corps Regimental Association 10K run and kids run/walk is 7:30 a.m. **May 21** (start and finish in front of the Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy).

Entry Fee is \$15 before May 1, \$20 after, \$25 day of race; kid's entry is \$10. Entry fees are non-refundable; make checks payable to the Signal Corps Regimental Association. For information, e-mail SCRArun@signalcorps.org.

Hooah race

The Fourth Annual Army Hooah Race is at 7:30 a.m. **June 11** in Atlanta. Race events include a five-kilometer and 10-kilometer course, as well as a 100 yard tot trot for ages 10 and younger.

The cost for online registration is \$13 at www.active.com. Online registrations accepted until 11 p.m. May 29. Registration forms are also available for download at www.ArmyHooahRace.army.mil.

Mail-in registration must be postmarked by **May 27**; late registration is \$17. For information call Sgt. Maj. Bill Bissonette at (404)464-8228.

Go-kart track

A go-kart track is now open behind the Courtyard, Fridays, 4-9 p.m., Saturdays, noon-9 p.m., and Sundays, 1-7 p.m. Cost is \$5 for a 10 minute ride. Special rates available for groups of eight or more.

For information, call 791-5078.

Softball

Unit level softball games being May 23. Teams are still needed for all three leagues: morning, unit and womens. If you are interested in signing up your unit team or signing up for a team, contact Al Robingson at 791-1142.

German badge

The German Army Liaison Office is looking for participation in the German Efficiency Badge competition. The event involves various competitions that include track and field, firing with a hand gun, swimming and a road march. For those interested in participating contact Sgt. Maj. Johann Reiter, 791-3892.

Golf tournament

The 2005 Law Day Golf Tournament is **today** with a shot-gun start at 1 p.m. at Gordon Lakes Golf Course.

Prices are \$36 for E-5 and above, \$32 for E-4 and below, and \$45 for civilians for individual play.

For team play, prices are \$144 for military and \$180 for civilians. Price includes lunch, green fees and use of a golf cart.

For additional information, call 1st Lt. Desiree Helmick at 791-3015 or Capt. Joe Venghaus at 791-7812.

Bowling

Gordon Lanes Bowling Center is holding a summer youth bowling program for ages 6-21. Cost is \$10 per week per child and runs May 26 to July 28 each Thursday at 10 a.m. For information, call 791-3446.

56th dominates in huge win, pummels 93rd in basketball

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

The 56th Signal Company trounced the 93rd Signal Brigade 88-45 in a lopsided battalion level basketball victory at Gym 5 Tuesday.

At the onset of the game it appeared the 93rd was going to walk all over the 56th as they took a 5-0 lead three minutes into the game.

But, whether it was that they were playing possum or just getting warmed up, after a few minutes into the first half the tide turned abruptly.

The carnage began as Thomas McGuire, 56th center, hit a three pointer putting his squad on the score board. After that, Vincent Thompson, 56th forward, nailed a three of his own.

Shortly thereafter, Monroe Atkins, 56th forward, scored from downtown as well, making it 9-5 beginning their assault on the 93rd.

The 56th went on a rampage taking total control of the game in every facet imaginable: offense, defense, blocking, rebounding, creating turnovers and running plays as a cohesive unit.

On the flip side, the 93rd just could not seem to get anything going as their initial burst of energy at the beginning of the game withered away.

With every 56th possession, they appeared to get more and more out of sync, having to call time out several times throughout the course of the game.

Several players on the 56th squad continued to drop bombs from three-point land at will, increasing the score and eliminating any chance of the 93rd

making a comeback.

With 13 minutes to go in the first half, 56th led 19-10 and they closed the half with the score of 48-24. The 56th were just as tenacious in the second half as the 93rd's woes continued.

The rest of the game is history as the 56th annihilated the 93rd with the score of 88-45.

Brian Ward, 56th Signal Battalion coach, was extremely pleased with his team's performance in the game.

"We ran our offense like we practiced, our guys got some good shots," said Ward.

"We have some great players out here," he added.

He said it was a team effort with each player contributing to the victory, saying it has been that way the whole season evidenced by their 9-3 record.

"Everybody works together for the betterment of the team," Ward said, adding that he likes his team's chances of winning the battalion-level title.

Charles Wynn, 93rd coach, was content with his team's performance in this game considering the powerhouse opponent they faced.

"For a team like us, it was good," said Wynn. "Those guys (the 93rd) are great. There's nothing we can take away from them."

He said his team played hard, and although there are areas they need to improve on, they seem to be getting better with every game.

With some more practice, Wynn said his team can develop some chemistry and eventually play the way their opponent did in this game.

The 93rd drops their record to 3-8.



Photo by Spc. Armando Monroig
Monroe Atkins, 56th Signal Company forward, (with ball) puts a move on Gabriel Young while playing in the post during battalion level basketball action at Gym 5 Tuesday.

Multi-national forces compete in Ali Olympics, take break from war

Sgt. David Foley
Army News Service

ALI AIR BASE, Iraq – As Coalition forces work together fighting the war on terror, fun usually takes a back seat to the missions at hand, but all that changed for a day April 18 in Talil, Iraq.

Servicemembers and civilian contractors from the United States, Romania, Britain, and Italy took the day off work to compete in the Ali Olympics, testing their skills at soccer, basketball, dodge ball, tug-of-war, arm

wrestling, table tennis, volleyball and a strongman competition. Many of the competitors then competed in a 26.2-mile marathon that coincided with the Boston marathon the next day.

The Ali Olympics were the brainchild of Capt. Rodney Freeman, Base Camp Adder Morale Welfare and Recreation officer-in-charge, and Air Force Capt. Sabrina Jones, 407th Expeditionary Service Squadron commander.

Freeman, a New England native, had plans to hold a marathon in Talil to coincide

with the Boston Marathon, and Jones was planning a sports day for her airmen. The two put their heads together and the Ali Olympics were born.

All in all, more than 200 people turned out for the Olympics, and more than twice that number ran the marathon, which was a complete success, said Freeman.

Jones said she organized the events based on the availability of on-hand resources, and tried to get as much diversity as possible.

The Romanians, who took first place in the soccer competition and placed second in tug-of-war, table tennis and volleyball competitions, turned out for the basketball with no intentions of winning, but wanted to be a part of all the events.

During the first game of the basketball competition, Romanian soldiers played against U.S. Soldiers despite their lack of practice.

"It is important to participate in all the games," said Romanian Staff Sgt. Alexander Mihai, a member of the Romanian basketball team. "We like to talk and make friends, and it is good to take a break from the missions."

"The stress of our missions is sometimes too much," he added. "So it is very good for us to do this."

Mihai said his team played basketball just for fun and exercise, but was serious in the soccer and volleyball competitions.

The U.S. troops also enjoyed the opportunity to spend some time with their Coalition comrades while taking part in some friendly competition.

Sgt. John Dennis, a mechanic with the 206th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., who was on the U.S. Army basketball team, said he enjoyed playing basketball against the Romanians and had plans to tell his family about the event.

"It's not every day you can say you played basketball against Romanians in the Olympics," he said.

Dennis and his team defeated all other competitors in the basketball competition and finished in first place. The Army also took first place in the dodge ball tournament and won all three medals in the strong man competition.

By the end of the day, many of the soldiers, airmen and civilians had met several people who they would normally pass by on their way to work or lunch, and the Olympics led to many new friendships.

The competition results are: In soccer, Romania in first place, Italy in second, and Army in third.

In tug of war, ITT Company in first place, Romania in second, Army in third.

In table tennis, it was Patrick Mualem, ITT Co. in first place, Gurin Valentin, Romania in second, and Mario Mezza, Italy placed third.

In the strong man competition it was Romone Martinez, Army in first place, Alyn Brown, Army in second, and Kelley Regan, Army in third.

In volleyball, Air Force placed first, Romania second, and Italy third. In basketball, Army came in first, Air Force in second, and Army third.



Photo by Sgt. David Foley
Jason Romal (right), U.S. Air Force, arm wrestles Christian Dinkle, Romanian Army, during the Talil Olympics at Ali Al Talil Airbase, Iraq. Romal placed first in the event.

Spectrum

Post Celebrates Cinco de Mayo



Participants of the Cinco de Mayo fashion show display traditional Hispanic clothing as part of opening ceremony festivities held at Freedom Park April 29. Photos by Spc. Armando Monroig



Children wait in anticipation for the piñata to be cracked and spill its candy contents during opening day festivities.

Spc. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Fort Gordon was filled with Latin flavor in more ways than one as it celebrated Hispanics and Mexico's Cinco de Mayo during a festive celebration at Freedom Park.

About 3,000 people attended the second annual weekend-long celebration that kicked off at noon Friday for post Soldiers and civilian employees.

Later that day, Col. Karen Adams, U.S. Army Garrison commander, officially began the event with opening remarks.

The weekend was filled with opportunities for those attending to experience various facets of Hispanic culture as well as enjoy carnival rides for the whole family, go to a petting zoo, try a pony or camel ride, and look at entries of a car show.

Vendors sold Mexican, Puerto Rican and Panamanian cuisine, models displayed traditional Hispanic clothing, and bands which included the Signal Corps Band, Orchestra Tabago, and Rumba Bravo, both from Atlanta played salsa music.

When the bands took breaks, a DJ played a mix of rhythmic Hispanic tunes mixing it up with popular Latin salsa, merengue, bachata and reggaeton hits as

well as club songs, getting many on their feet dancing.

Although the weather didn't cooperate Saturday and it rained for most of the day, Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers still held their car show and in the evening food and music were available for those who could not stay away for another day of celebration.

The weather cleared up Sunday, mirroring Friday with lots of sun and many turning out for the final day of festivities.

Steve Walpert, installation entertainment director, said an event like this helps bring the civilian and military communities together.

The festival is "in celebration of an enjoyment of this culture and talent that is available in our community," Walpert said.

Sgt. Nayarecte Collazo, Company A, 551st Signal Battalion, said the Cinco de Mayo event was great.

"It was a great opportunity for all the Hispanic people to get together," said Collazo, who is of Puerto Rican descent.

Collazo said she enjoyed the music, food and overall atmosphere.

"For the American people to realize we have a lot of Hispanics in the Army, what a better way than to celebrate Cinco de Mayo on post," said Collazo.



A 2002 Corvette was part of the BOSS car show.



(Above left) One-year-old Gabriela Herlo takes a look at her face paint job along with her mother, Petty Officer 2nd Class Olimpia Herlo, Naval Security Group Activity.

(Above) Soldiers take a ride on the Sea Ray pirate ship.

(Left) Ines Rodriguez and Elizabeth Rivas cook 'papas rellenas' or potatoes stuffed with various meats, a Puerto Rican dish.

